GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:158
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2000
SHAHTOOSH SHAWLS
BHUWAN CHANDRA AVSM (RETD.) KHANDURI

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "The Shahtoosh Wars" appearing in "The Hindustan Times" dated December 21, 1999;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether Article 36A of schedule I of the Indian Wildlife Act 1972 is applicable to Jammu and Kashmir State;

(d) if not, the manner in which the Government propose to resolve the anomaly of "non-protection" of CHIRU (TibetianAntelope) in one part of the country;

(e) whether the Government had taken a view regarding the action to be taken against the owners of Shahtoosh Shawls; and

(f) if so, the number of cases in which the punishment has been awarded to the offenders during the last three years, year-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 158 FOR 6.3.2000 REGARDI SHAHTOOSH SHAWLS.

(a) Government is aware of an article entitled 'The Shahtoosh Wars', published in 'The Hindustan Times' dated 26-12-1999.

(b) Tibetan Antelope is included in Schedule I of Wild Life (Protection) Act and the Government is fully committed to implement the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act in respect of Tibetan Antelope like any other species included in Schedule I of the act.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The State Government of Jammu & Kashmir has been requested to provide protection to Tibetan Antelope as is applicable to other parts of the country.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Details of the cases of illegal possession of Shahtoosh Shawls / wool detected by various agencies in the last three yearsis annexed. Cases have been filed against the offenders in the competent courts of law.

ANNEXURE – I

ANNEXURE IN RESPECT OF PART (f) OF STATEMENT OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 158 FOR 6.3.2000 REGARDING SHAHTOOSH SHAWLS

SEIZURES DURING 1997, 1998 AND 1999

Sl.No.	Date	Place	Quantity	Detected by
1.	09.1.97	Calcutta	03 shawls	Wildlife
2.	11.2.98	Bangalore	09 shawls	Police/Wildlife
3.	27.4.98	Delhi	07 shawls	Wildlife/Customs

4.	26.2.99	Delhi	09 shawls	Customs/Wildlife
5.	03.3.99	Delhi	10	Wildlife shawls
6.	13.3.99	Delhi	96	Wildlife shawls
7	14.3.99	Delhi	13	Customs/shawls Wildlife
8.	15.3.99	Delhi	13	Customs/Shawls Wildlife